

Department of Physiology and Pharmacology
Introduction to Human Physiology, PHYS 2130 650 FW23

Course Syllabus for Fall/Winter 2023



Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**; therefore, your health and wellness matter to us! The following link provides information about the resources available on and off campus to support students: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> Your course coordinator can also **guide you** to resources and/or services should you need them.

1. Technical Requirements:



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer

2. Important Dates:



Classes Begin	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 7	October 30– November 5	December 8	December 9	December 10–22

* November 30, 2023: Last day to drop a first-term full course without penalty

Classes Resume	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 8	February 17-25	April 8	April 9-10	April 11–30

3. Contact Information



Course Coordinator	Contact Information
Dr. Pierre Thibeault	OWL Messages

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information
Tianyi Tang	Discussion forums, OWL Messages
Bavina Fatima Thirunavukarasu	Discussion forums, OWL Messages
Krittika Narasimhan	Discussion forums, OWL Messages

4. Course Description and Design

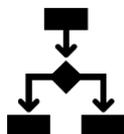
Delivery Mode: Online

A survey course outlining the principles of human/mammalian physiology: general properties of the living cell and internal environment; neural, muscle, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, renal, and endocrine systems; metabolism, reproduction, and homeostasis.

Antirequisite(s): [Physiology 1020](#), [Physiology 1021](#), [Physiology 3120](#), [Physiology and Pharmacology 2000](#).

Prerequisite(s): First-year courses in Biology and Chemistry are recommended.

Extra Information: Online, virtual asynchronous lectures and online (zoom) office hours



Timetabled Sessions

Component	Date(s)	Time
Virtual Asynchronous	N/A	5-7 hours weekly

- Asynchronous lecture to be completed by the student.
- Closed captioning will be provided on audio or video recordings

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Help page](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

[Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#).

5. Learning Outcomes



Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe basic concepts and principles regarding the function of the human body
- Define physiological processes
- Integrate knowledge from multiple physiological systems
- Apply knowledge of physiology to disease situations

6. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Sept 7–10	Modules 1-3 – Introduction to Human Physiology, Body Fluids, The Human Cell
2	Sept 11–17	Module 4 – The Nerve
3	Sept 18–24	Module 5 – Muscle
4	Sept 25–Oct 1	Module 6 – First half – The Nervous System
5	Oct 2–8	Module 6 – Second half – The Nervous System
6	Oct 9–15	Module 7 – First half – The Sensory System
7	Oct 16–22	Module 7 – Second half – The Sensory System
8	Oct 23–Oct 29	Module 8 – First half – The Cardiovascular System
9	Oct 30–Nov 5	Fall Reading Week
10	Nov 6–12	Module 8 – Second half – The Cardiovascular System
11	Nov 13–19	Module 9 – First half – The Circulatory System
12	Nov 20–26	Module 9 – Second half – The Circulatory System
13	Nov 27–Dec 3	Module 10 – First half – The Respiratory System
14	Dec 4–9	<i>Study days</i>



Week	Dates	Topic
1	Jan 8–14	Modules 10 – Second half – The Respiratory System
2	Jan 15-21	Module 11 – First half – The Renal System
3	Jan 22-28	Module 11 – Second half – The Renal System
4	Jan 29–Feb 4	Module 12 – Acids and Bases
5	Feb 5-11	Module 13 – First half – The Endocrine System
6	Feb 12–16	Module 13 – Second half – The Endocrine System
7	Feb 17-25	Spring Reading Week
8	Feb 26-Mar 3	Module 14 – First half – The Reproductive System
9	Mar 4-10	Module 14 – Second half – The Reproductive System
10	Mar 11–17	Module 15 – First half – The Digestive System
11	Mar 18–24	Module 15 – Second half – The Digestive System
12	Mar 25–Mar 31	Module 16 – Metabolism
13	Apr 1-8	No new material
14	Apr 9-10	<i>Study days</i>

7. Participation and Engagement



- Students are encouraged to participate and engage with content as much as possible
- Students can participate by interacting in the forums with their peers and instructors and during test review sessions

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Date Due
Case study #1	Online quiz	2.5%	September 28
Case study #2	Online quiz	2.5%	November 16
Case study #3	Online quiz	2.5%	January 25
Case study #4	Online quiz	2.5%	March 14
Test #1	In person	15%	October 21 (Tentative)
Midterm exam	In person (Cumulative)	30%	December 10-22 period
Test #2	In person	15%	February 10 (Tentative)
Final exam	In person (Cumulative)	30%	April 11-30 period



- Case studies quizzes will be available for 72 hours and will be completed ONLINE. Students will have 20 minutes (or accommodated) time once started to complete the case study quiz. The case study quiz will be comprised of 10 multiple choice questions taken from the questions provided in the case study instructions. Students will have a maximum of two quiz submissions and the highest scoring submission will be taken for grading.
- I will take the highest-scoring three out of four case studies for a student's case study grade (i.e., the lowest of four case study grades will be removed).
- All examinations are SYNCHRONOUS and IN PERSON
- All examinations will be composed of multiple-choice questions.
- Makeup examinations will be in a format of my choosing which may include short answer and essay style questions.
- Both the midterm and final exams will be CUMULATIVE.
- Students WILL be permitted to use a non-programmable calculator during tests and examinations.
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days.
- Any grade appeals on examinations MUST be received within 3 weeks of the grade being posted.
- 15% of your course grade will be evaluated and returned 3 days prior to the drop deadline (statement in policies below).

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

- ✓ Missed tests WITHOUT approved documentation will be given a grade of zero.
- ✓ Missed tests WITH an approved accommodation will be allowed to take the make-up test. Only one make-up test will be offered per scheduled test.
- ✓ If a make-up test is missed WITHOUT approved documentation, then the student will receive a zero on the test.
- ✓ If a make-up test is missed WITH approved documentation, weight of the test will be transferred to the final exam. This can only occur for ONE test – students must complete at least three of four exams to complete the course. If a student misses more than one test, then the student will receive an INC and need to complete one of the missed test/exams in the next course offering.
- ✓ All examination accommodation requests MUST be taken to the student's academic counsellor
- ✓ Students must complete at least one of the four case studies to complete the course.
- ✓ Accommodations for case study quizzes should be sought from Dr. Thibeault. Please send me a message in the "Messages" tab on OWL.
- ✓ If a case study quiz is missed OR late WITHOUT an accommodation, then the student will receive a zero on the case study.
- ✓ If a case study quiz is missed WITH an accommodation, then a late submission will be accepted until Saturday following the case study due date.

INC (Incomplete Standing): If a student has been approved by the Academic Counselling Office (in consultation with the instructor/department) to complete term work at a later date, an INC will be assigned. Students with INC will have their course load in subsequent terms reduced to allow them to complete outstanding course work. Students may request permission from Academic Counselling to carry a full course load for the term the incomplete course work is scheduled.

SPC (Special examination): If a student has been approved by the Academic Counselling Office to write a Special Examination and the final exam is the only outstanding course component, an SPC will be assigned. If the class has a makeup exam, the student is expected to write the makeup exam. If the class doesn't have a makeup exam or the student misses the makeup exam for reasons approved by the Academic Counselling Office, the student will write the exam the next time the course is offered. Outstanding SPCs will reduce the course load for the term the exam is deferred as outlined in [Types of Examinations](#) policy.

9. Communication:



- Students should check the OWL site every 24–48 hours
- Students should only email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using [OWL Messages](#)
- Messages will be monitored daily Monday to Friday; students will receive a response in 24–48 hours
- This course will use the OWL forum for discussions
- Students should post all course-related queries on the discussion forum so that everyone can access the questions and responses

10. Office Hours:



- Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom
- Office hours will be held weekly
- Office hours will be booked using the Sign-up tab in OWL

11. Resources



- All resources will be posted in OWL
- There is NO required textbook for this course

12. Professionalism & Privacy:



Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared (e.g., Must Knows Facebook group, Course Hero, Chegg, etc.)
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed
- Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before all assessments

Western is committed to providing a learning and working environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. All **students**, staff, and faculty have a role in this commitment and have a responsibility to ensure and promote a safe and respectful learning and working environment. Relevant policies include Western's [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35) and [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy – Administrative Procedures](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35).

Any **student**, staff, or faculty member who experiences or witnesses' behaviour that may be harassment or discrimination **must report the behaviour** to the Western's [Human Rights Office](#). Harassment and discrimination can be human rights-based, which is also known as EDI-based, (sexism, racism, transphobia, homophobia, islamophobia, xenophobia, antisemitism, and ableism) or non-human rights-based (personal harassment or workplace harassment).

13. How to Be Successful in this Class:



Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule your time throughout the course.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.

3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

14. Western Academic Policies and Statements

Absence from Course Commitments

A. Absence for medical illness:

Students must familiarize themselves with the [Accommodation for Illness Policy](#).

A student seeking academic accommodation for any **work worth less than 10%** must contact the instructor or follow the appropriate Department or course specific instructions provided on the course outline. Instructors will use good judgment and ensure fair treatment for all students when considering these requests. You are not required to disclose details about your situation to your instructor; documentation is not required in this situation, and you should not send any pictures to your instructor.

If you are unable to meet a course requirement for any **work worth 10% or greater** due to illness or other serious circumstances, you must provide valid medical or other supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling as soon as possible and contact your instructor immediately. It is the student's responsibility to make alternative arrangements with their instructor once the accommodation has been approved and the instructor has been informed. Please note that the format of a make-up test, exam, or assignment is at the discretion of the course coordinator.

A student requiring academic accommodation due to illness should use the Student Medical Certificate when visiting an off-campus medical facility or request a Record's Release Form (located in the Dean's Office) for visits to Student Health Services. The form can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

B. Absence for non-medical reasons:

Student absences might also be approved for non-medical reasons such as religious holidays and compassionate situations. Please review the policy on [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). All non-medical requests must be processed by Academic Counselling. Not all absences will be approved; pay attention to the academic calendar and final exam period when booking any trips.

C. Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

Academic Offenses

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](#) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).

Discovery Credit Statement

Students are permitted to designate up to 1.0 Discovery Credit course (or equivalent) for pass/fail grading that can be counted toward the overall course credits required for their degree program. The details of this policy and the deadlines can be found [here](#).

Turnitin and other similarity review software

All examinations will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All text submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and [Turnitin.com](#).

15% Rule

According to the [Evaluation of Academic Performance](#) policy, at least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade. Generally, students can expect some form of feedback on their performance in a course before the drop date. In rare instances, at the Dean's discretion, an exemption can be issued, which also must be noted in the course syllabus. Deans should review exemptions on a course-by-course basis each time an exempted course is offered.

15. BMSUE Academic Policies and Statements

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy (for in-person tests and exams)

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is committed to ensuring that testing and evaluation are undertaken fairly across all our departments and programs. For all tests and exams, it is the policy of the School that any electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, tablets, cameras, iPods, smart devices, etc.) are strictly prohibited. These devices **MUST** be left either at home or with the student's bag/jacket at the front of the room and **MUST NOT** be at the test/exam desk or in the individual's pocket. Any student found with one of these prohibited devices will receive a grade of zero on the test or exam. Non-programmable calculators are only allowed when indicated by the instructor. The program is not responsible for stolen/lost or broken devices.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Rounding of Marks Statement

Across the Basic Medical Sciences Undergraduate Education programs, we strive to maintain high standards that reflect the effort that both students and faculty put into the teaching and learning experience during this course. All students will be treated equally and evaluated based only on their actual achievement. **Final grades** on this course, irrespective of the number of decimal places used in marking individual assignments and tests, will be calculated to one decimal place and rounded to the nearest integer, e.g., 74.4 becomes 74, and 74.5 becomes 75. Marks WILL NOT be bumped to the next grade or GPA, e.g., a 79 will NOT be bumped up to an 80, an 84 WILL NOT be bumped up to an 85, etc. The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned; requests for mark “bumping” will be denied.

Rules for Exam Conduct by the Student

Students are responsible for arriving at the examination room on time with adequate supplies (pens, pencils, erasers, calculator, and current ID card) and may be admitted five minutes before the beginning of the examination. Upon entering the examination room, students will refrain from talking to or communicating with other students. Students will read any posted Instructions concerning seating and other arrangements within the examination room. Students must place their ID card on the desk. No student may leave the examination room during the first thirty minutes of the examination. Students must sign the nominal roll which will be circulated by the proctor during the first thirty minutes of the examination. Students arriving later than thirty minutes after the commencement of the examination will not be allowed to write the examination. Under such circumstances students should proceed to their academic advisor for instructions. Students prevented from writing an examination by circumstances such as illness, or death in the family shall submit a request for academic accommodation to their academic advisor/counsellor. Students are forbidden to give information or to receive it from any other student during the examination. Students will not make use of any books, notes, diagrams, or other aids, unless authorized by the examiner, such authorization being clearly stated on the question paper. Students who bring any unauthorized notes, books or other aids into the examination room must leave them in an area designated by the Chief Proctor. Upon completion of the examination, students will ensure that their student number, name, course number, and the name of the instructor are lettered legibly on all answer books. No exam booklets or scantron sheets will be taken from the examination room. Students will not be allowed to leave the examination room during the last fifteen minutes. Under no circumstances including late arrival, will the time beyond the designated period be extended. At the conclusion of the examination, students will remain seated until a proctor has collected their completed examination booklets. For all tests and exams, it is the policy of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology that any devices with a battery (e.g. cell phone, tablet, camera, watch, smart watch, ipod, etc.) are strictly prohibited. These devices MUST be left either at home or with the students bag/jacket at the front of the room and MUST not be at the test/exam desk or in the individuals pocket. Any student found with one of these prohibited devices will receive a grade of zero on the test or exam.

PLEASE NOTE:

All exam answer sheets are subject to a common data analysis, which identifies anomalies of statistical significance in the selection of right and wrong answers by pairs of students. The course instructor is required to report all statistically significant results, which suggest that cheating may have occurred. All such incidents will be subject to further investigation. All proven cases of cheating will be subject to severe academic penalties. If you are seated near someone with whom you studied, and you think you may choose many of the same answers as that person, please raise your hand and ask a proctor to reseat you for the exam.

16. Support Services

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

[Academic Counselling \(Science and Basic Medical Sciences\)](#)

[Appeal Procedures](#)

[Registrarial Services](#)

[Student Development Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)